

Soviet Trying Briton As Agent of Exiles

By PETER GROSE

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, July 22 — The

Soviet Union brought a young British language teacher to trial today on charges of subversive activity in the service of a shadowy group of anti-Soviet émigrés allegedly working for Western intelligence agencies.

Gerald Brooke, 28 years old, of the Russian faculty at London's Holborn College, pleaded guilty to the indictment.

The Russians have turned the trial into a forum for accusing exile groups of working actively to overthrow the Communist Government and undo the Bolshevik Revolution.

The prosecution warned that increased economic and cultural contacts with the West were allowing "bourgeois enemies of the Soviet Union" to infiltrate into the country.

Mr. Brooke entered the Soviet Union as a tourist last April. He was arrested April 25 and has been held in Moscow's Lubyanka Prison.

The Soviet authorities charge that Mr. Brooke's baggage contained anti-Soviet pamphlets and stencils for duplicating propaganda material as well as secret code books for interpreting Western radio broadcasts.

The Briton tried to turn the material over to a Russian named Yuri Konstantinov, the prosecution said, thinking that Konstantinov was still working with the exile organization. The Russian, however, had become a double agent and turned Mr. Brooke in, according to the prosecutor.

It was in Konstantinov's apartment that Mr. Brooke was arrested.

Mr. Brooke was sent to Moscow as a courier. The indictment said. He studied here six years ago at the Moscow University and speaks Russian fluently.

In pinpointing the émigré organization, the Soviet Union focused attention on a little-known political movement that is more a remnant of 19th century revolutionary politics than a product of cold war espionage.

It is called the Narodno-Trudovoy Soyuz, (the People's Labor Alliance), more often called simply N.T.S. by Russian émigré students in Western Europe.

During World War II the N.T.S. operated an active underground organization aimed at subverting Communist rule in territories occupied by the Germans. Many of its members fought in anti-Soviet military units made up of Russian prisoners of war and exiles under Gen. Andrei Vlasov, whom the Russians executed in 1946.

After the war, according to Western sources, the N.T.S. was frequently used by American, German and other intelligence agencies as an organization ideally suited to supply agents for systematic deep penetration into the Soviet Union.

A Soviet secret police officer who defected, Capt. Nikolai Khokhlov, told a United States Congressional committee in 1954 that the N.T.S. had built up cells in the Soviet Army and sent couriers across the frontiers regularly.

From its headquarters in Frankfurt, West Germany, it publishes magazines and newspapers and operates a radio station. It is credited with expert forgeries of the Soviet newspaper Pravda containing neatly disguised anti-Communist propaganda.

Replying to the prosecutor's questions Mr. Brooke said the N.T.S. "aims at bringing about the downfall of Soviet power and the establishment of a bourgeois system of government," according to the Soviet press agency Tass.

The detailed questioning of Mr. Brooke during the afternoon session of the trial was closed to foreigners. Western newsmen were admitted to the morning session, at which the Briton pleaded guilty.

The Tass account said Mr. Brooke had admitted becoming involved with the N.T.S. in January, 1964, through a London émigré friend named Georgi. He had thought the organization was active only in propaganda and agitation, Tass said.

Later the press agency added, Mr. Brooke concluded "that the organization, which is working in the service of foreign intelligence, is calling for terror and sabotage against the Soviet Union."

British Diplomat Accused

The prosecutor said Mr. Brooke had been given instructions that if he was unable to deliver any of the N.T.S. propaganda he should turn it over to a British diplomat for for-

warding back to London by diplomatic pouch. "Members of the British diplomatic corps have active connections with people who are working against the Soviet Union," the indictment said.

The diplomat named was K. Anthony Bishop, a third secretary of the embassy. A British Embassy spokesman promptly denied that the embassy had any connection with Mr. Brooke or with any of his activities.

Mr. Brooke is being tried under Section 70 of the Soviet Criminal Code, dealing with "agitation or propaganda conducted with the purpose of undermining or weakening Soviet power."

It forbids "the propagation of slanderous ideas which blacken the state and social system, as well as the propagation, production or storage of literature of the same character."

The maximum penalty is seven years in prison. The trial is to be concluded tomorrow.